

JACK SHAINMAN GALLERY

ODILI DONALD ODITA

Born in Enugu, Nigeria.
Lives and works in Philadelphia

EDUCATION

1990

M.F.A., Bennington College, Vermont

1988

B.F.A. (with Distinction) Ohio State University; Excellence in the Arts

SELECTED ONE-ARTIST EXHIBITIONS

2020

Mirror, Jack Shainman Gallery, New York, September 10 – October 2020.

Odili Donald Odita: From Periphery to Center, Laumeier Sculpture Park & Jeske Sculpture Park, Missouri, August 8 – December 20, 2020.

2019-2020

Mamba Negra, ICA Miami, Miami, Florida, November 7, 2019 – November 1, 2020.

Force Field, Sarasota Museum of Art, Sarasota, Florida, 2019 – 2020.

2018

Other World, Michael Stevenson Gallery, Cape Town, South Africa, May 22 – June 30, 2018.

Third Sun, Jack Shainman Gallery, New York, January 5, 2018 – February 10, 2018.

Constellation, FRONT International: Cleveland Triennial for Contemporary Art, Cleveland Ohio, 2018.

2017

Gateway, Newark Museum of Art, Newark, New Jersey, 2017.

2016

Odili Donald Odita: The Differend, Curated by Robert C. Morgan and Michele Bonuomo, M77 Gallery, Milan, Italy, May 31 – September 17, 2016.

2015-2017

Shadow & Light: Time Bridge, Nasher Museum of Art at Duke University, Durham, North Carolina, August 18, 2015 – October 1, 2017.

2015

Odili Donald Odita: Third Degree of Separation, Michael Stevenson Gallery, Cape Town, South Africa, March 5 – April 11, 2015.

Odili Donald Odita: The Velocity of Change, Jack Shainman Gallery, New York, December 11, 2015 – January 30, 2016.

Our House, City of Philadelphia Mural Arts Program, Pennsylvania, 2015.

2014

Bridge, Center for the Arts at Virginia Tech, Blacksburg, VA.

2013

Infinite Horizon, George C. Young US Courthouse & Federal Building.

This, That, and the Other, Jack Shainman Gallery, 513 West 20th Street, New York, October 18–November 16, 2013.

Grey, Beta Pictoris, Maus Contemporary Art, Birmingham, AL.

2012

Odili Donald Odita: Event Horizon. Michael Stevenson Gallery, Cape Town, South Africa, October 18–November 24, 2012.

Heaven's Gate, Savannah College of Art & Design Museum of Art, December 27, 2012 – June 2, 2013.

2011

Forever, New Orleans Museum of Art, New Orleans, Curated by Miranda Lash.

2010

Light and Vision, The US Mission to The United Nations, New York.

Perspectives 169: Odili Donald Odita, Contemporary Arts Museum, Houston, February 11–May 2, 2010.

Body & Space, Jack Shainman Gallery, New York, November 18–December 23, 2010.

2009

Television, Ulrich Project Series, Ulrich Museum of Art, Wichita, Kansas, April 9–April 26, 2010.

Up & Away (permanent installation), Butler Commons, Princeton University, Princeton, New Jersey, October 9, 2010.

2008–2009

Third Space, Institute of Contemporary Art, Philadelphia, September 5, 2008–December 6, 2009.
Exhibition organized by Stamatina Gregory. (Brochure)

2008

Double Edge, Michael Stevenson Gallery, Cape Town, South Africa, October 16–November 22, 2008.
(Catalogue)

2007–2008

FLOW, Contemporary Arts Center, Cincinnati, November 10, 2007–Fall 2008.

Equalizer, Studio Museum in Harlem, New York, November 14, 2007–March 9, 2008.

2006

Fusion, Jack Shainman Gallery, New York, November 17–December 22, 2006.

2005

Paradise, Wertz Contemporary, Atlanta, GA

2004

The Third Eye, Galerie Judin Belot, Zurich, March–April 2004.

Notes from Paradise, Florence Lynch Gallery, New York, October 18–December 2004.

New Work, Galerie Schuster, Frankfurt.

2003

Transformer, Hospitalhof, Stuttgart, May–June 2003. Curated by Helmut A. Mueller.

RESISTANCE, Matrix Art Project, Brussels, September–October 2003.

New Work, Schmidt Contemporary Art, St. Louis, MO.

2002

Interlude, Wintergarten, Vienna, March 2002.

New Work, Pérez Art Museum, Miami, Florida, August 22–October 29, 2002.

Art Statements with Florence Lynch Gallery, Art Basel Miami Beach.

New Work, Galerie Schustser & Scheuermann, Berlin.

New Work, Galerie Schuster, Frankfurt.

2001

LIFE, Riva Gallery and Florence Lynch Gallery, New York, October–November 2001.

Paintings & Drawings, Florence Lynch Gallery, New York.

2000

Passport, Jenn Joy Gallery, San Francisco

Transfers/Odyssey, Kunsthalle, St. Gallen, Switzerland, curated by Dorothea Strauss.

New Work, Hofstra University, Alex Rosenberg Art Gallery, Calkins Hall, NY

1999

The Invisible Empire, Gallery 101, Ottawa-Ontario, Canada, January 23–February 27, 1999. (Catalogue)

Color Theory, Florence Lynch Gallery, New York.

1992

The Jaws of Domesticity, der Kiosk, Installation, St. Gallen, Switzerland.

SELECTED GROUP EXHIBITIONS

2020

Color Field, University of Houston System, Houston, Texas, October 2020 – May 2021.

Theft and Destruction, Galeria Arsenal, Poland, February 21 – April 9, 2020.

2019

How We See: Materiality of Color, Laumeier Sculpture Park, St. Louis, Missouri, March 2 – June 20, 2019.

Generations: A History of Black and Abstract Art, Baltimore Museum of Art, Baltimore, Maryland, September 29, 2019 – January 19, 2020.

Every Day: Selections from the Collection, Baltimore Museum of Art, Baltimore, Maryland, July 14, 2019 – January 5, 2020.

Double Edged: Geometric Abstraction Then and Now, The Bob & Lissa Shelley McDowell Gallery, Weatherspoon Art Museum, Greensboro, North Carolina, May 25 – August 18, 2019.

2018- 2019

Parking on Pavement, The School | Jack Shainman Gallery, Kinderhook, NY, November 17, 2018 – March 2, 2019.

Makeshift, John Michael Kohler Arts Center, Sheboygan, Wisconsin, September 22, 2018 – March 3, 2019.

2017-2019

Third Space / Shifting Conversations About Contemporary Art, Jemison Galleries at The Birmingham Museum of Art, Birmingham, Alabama, January 28, 2017 – January 6, 2019.

2018

Front International: Cleveland Triennial for Contemporary Art: An American City, Constellation, Curated by Michelle Grabner. July 14, 2018 – September 30, 2018.

2017- 2018

Prospect 4 The Lotus in Spite of the Swamp, New Orleans, Louisiana, November 18, 2017- February 25, 2018.

New Horizon, Installation commission in the Dean's Suite at the Tyler School of Art / Temple University, Philadelphia.

2017

Anachronism and Liberation, Tiger Strikes Asteroid, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, August 4—September 17, 2017.

Vital Curiosity, Susan Lemberg Usdan Gallery at Bennington College, Vermont, June 28 – September 2017.

A Painting Today, Michael Stevenson Gallery, Cape Town, South Africa, March 6 – April 22, 2017.

nonObjectives. Sheldon Museum of Art, Lincoln, Nebraska, May 16 – July 23, 2017.

NEW NEW YORK: Continuum, The Curator Gallery, Chelsea, New York, NY, February 23 – April 15, 2017.

The Wisdom of Trees, Installation commission at Cummins Indy, Cummins Inc. Building, design by Deborah Burke.

Field of Dreams, Installation commission for the collection of Al Shands, Great Meadows Foundation, Crestwood, Kentucky.

NEW NEW YORK: Continuum, The Curator Gallery, Chelsea, New York, February 23, 2017 – April 15, 2017.

2016-2017

Africans in America, Goodman Gallery, Johannesburg Art Gallery, Johannesburg, South Africa, November 17, 2016 – December 17, 2017.

2016

Alumni Exhibition. Curated by Todd von Ammon. Bennington College, Usdan Gallery, Bennington, Vermont, September 20 – October 16, 2016.

Confluence/Influence: Mingei in Contemporary Abstraction. Curated by Leslie Wayne with Bridget Donlon. Dorsky Curatorial Programs, Long Island City, New York, September 18 – December 10, 2016.

The Pineapple Show. Curated by Zina Saro-Wiwa. Boys' Quarters Project Space, London, United Kingdom, July 8 – August 2016.

The Condition of Place: The Woodmere Annual 75th Juried Exhibition, Woodmere Art Museum, Philadelphia, PA, June 4 – August 28, 2016.

Color + Theory: Past and Present, The Fine Art Museum at Western Carolina University, Cullowhee, North Carolina, February 18 – May 6, 2016.

Al Shands Collection Wall Installation, Louisville, Kentucky, September 1 – 15, 2016.

In Context: Africans in America, Goodman Gallery, Johannesburg, South Africa Johannesburg Art Gallery, 17 November 2016 – 17 December 2016.

EXCHANGE, Galerie Hans Mayer, Düsseldorf, Germany, October 14 – November 2016.

(VBS) *Vital Burning Sunset*, Curated by Todd von Ammon. Suzanne Lemberg Usdan Gallery, Bennington College, Bennington, Vermont. September 20 – October 16, 2016

2015-2016

SCHEMA (catalogue), Michael Stevenson Gallery, Cape Town, South Africa, November 26, 2015 – January 16, 2016.

Outside the Lines: Color Across the Collections, Newark Museum, New Jersey, September 19 – January 10, 2016.

2014-2015

CHROMA (catalogue), Michael Stevenson Gallery, Cape Town, South Africa, November 24, 2014 – January 17, 2015.

2015

Represent: 200 Years of African American Art, Philadelphia Museum of Art, Philadelphia, January 10, 2015 - April 5, 2015.

NEW NEW YORK: Abstract Painting in the 21st Century, University Art Galleries & The John Young Museum of Art, of Hawaii, Manoa, August 1 – December 31, 2015.

2014

Evolving Geometries: Line, Form, and Color, Center for the Arts at Virginia Tech, Blacksburg, VA, September 25 – November 20, 2014.

Sound Vision: Contemporary Art from the Collection, Nasher Museum of Art at Duke University, Durham, North Carolina, March 6–August 3, 2014.

Visual Arts Gallery, University of Alabama at Birmingham, January 15, 2014.

2013

North by Northwest, Marginal Utility, Philadelphia, November 1–24, 2013.

Pulp 3, Beta Pictoris Maus Contemporary Art, Birmingham, August 9-September 7, 2013.

2012–2013

Never Underestimate a Monochrome, University of Iowa Museum of Art, September 30, 2012–January 31, 2013.

2012

The Geometric Unconscious: Desire, Discipline and Modern Art, 1910-2010, Sheldon Museum of Art, University of Nebraska-Lincoln, October 5, 2012–January 20, 2013. (Traveling)

Magical Visions, University Museums, University of Delaware, Newark, February 8–June 30, 2012.

African Abstraction, Michael Stevenson Gallery, Art Basel, Switzerland

2011–2012

Karmic Abstraction, Bridgette Mayer Gallery, Philadelphia, November 1, 2011–January 15, 2012. (Catalogue; text by John Yau)

The Bearden Project, Studio Museum in Harlem, New York, November 10, 2011–March 11, 2012.

2011

Building the Contemporary Collection: Five Years of Acquisitions, Nasher Museum of Art, Duke University, Durham, North Carolina, March 10–August 14, 2011. Curated by Trevor Schoonmaker.

20 Years Thami Mnyele Foundation, CBK Zuidooost, Amsterdam, March 12–April 29, 2011.

Geography of Somewhere, Brodie/Stevenson Gallery, Johannesburg, South Africa, April 14–May 13, 2011. Curated by David Brodie. (Catalogue)

ARS 11, Museum of Contemporary Art Kiasma, Helsinki, Finland, April 15–November 27, 2011. (Catalogue)

2010–2011

The Global Africa Project, Museum of Art and Design, New York, November 17, 2010–May 15, 2011. Curated by Lowery Sims and Leslie King-Hammond. (Catalogue)

2010

Wild is the Wind, Savannah College of Art & Design (SCAD), Georgia, January 8–February 28, 2010. Curated by Laurie Ann Farrell

Off the Grid, G Fine Art, Washington D.C.

2009

Contemporary Art of Africa and the African Diaspora, High Museum of Art, Atlanta

Poised, Solomon Projects, Atlanta

Strip/Stripe: A Project by Test, Emily Harvey Foundation, New York

Wallworks, Yerba Buena Center for the Arts, San Francisco

2008

Artcrush, Jenny Jaskey Gallery, Philadelphia

Paper Trail II: Passing Through Clouds, Rose Art Museum, Brandeis University, MA

Summer 2008/9, Michael Stevenson Gallery, Cape Town

Museum of Art, Kansas City, MO

2007

Baroque-Ademia, Nassau County Museum of Art, Roslyn Harbor, NY

The Color Line, Jack Shainman Gallery, New York

Exquisite Crisis and Encounters, Asian/Pacific/American Institute at NYU, New York

Post Painterly Abstraction, Locks Gallery, Philadelphia

Tapping Currents: Contemporary African Art and Diaspora, The Nelson-Atkins

Think with the Senses - Feel with the Mind. Art in the Present Tense, 52nd Venice Biennale in the Italian Pavilion, curated by Robert Storr

Summer 2007/8 Michael Stevenson Gallery, Cape Town

2006

Parallel Economies, Wertz Contemporary, Atlanta, February 3–March 4, 2006. (Catalogue; texts by Franklin Sirmans, Gean Moreno and Odili Donald Odita)

-poiesis, Jack Shainman Gallery, New York, June 29–July 28, 2006.

The Beautiful Game, Roebling Hall, Brooklyn

Big Juicy Paintings and More: Highlights from the Permanent Collection, Pérez Art Museum, Miami, Florida, FL

Diaspora and the Desert, at the Heard Museum, Phoenix

Distant Relatives/Relative Distance, Michael Stevenson Contemporary, Cape Town

New Order, Haus Konstruktiv, Zurich

Ordering & Seduction, Haus Konstruktiv, Zurich, Switzerland

Nederland 1, Museum Gouda, The Netherlands

Represent: Selections from the Studio Museum in Harlem, Studio Museum, New York

The Shape of Jazz, Clifford Chance Projects, New York

Synthetic Rhapsody: Florida in Miami, AR Contemporary Art, Milan

The Whole World is Rotten, Contemporary Arts Center, Cincinnati

Luanda Triennale 2006; The Triennale of Luanda, Angola

2005

Surface Charge, Virginia Commonwealth University Museum, Richmond, September–December 4, 2005.

Round Leather Worlds, Martin Gropius Bau, Berlin, October 20, 2005–January 8, 2006. Curated by Dorothea Strauss

A Warlike People: Victims or Perpetrators, Monorchid Gallery, Phoenix

Collectors Show and Sale, Arkansas Art Center, Little Rock, Arkansas

The Shape of Colour: Excursions in Colour Field Art, 1950–2005, Art Gallery of Ontario

2004

Dak'Art 2004 – Dakar Biennale of Contemporary African Art, Senegal, May 2004.

Anthology of Art, School of Fine Arts, Braunschweig

Flipside, Artists Space, New York

Home Extension, University Art Museum, Albany, NY

Transit: Abstracting the System, City Gallery at Chastain, Atlanta

UnStaged, Arti et Amicitiae, Amsterdam

Visualizing Diaspora/Construct Self, GASP, Boston

2003–2006

Fiction of Authenticity: Contemporary Africa Abroad (travelling exhibition), Baffler Gallery, The Art Museum of the University of Houston, Texas, September–November 2006. Previously exhibited at: North Carolina Museum of Art, Raleigh; Regina Gouger Miller Gallery, Purnell Center for the Arts, Carnegie Mellon University, Pittsburgh, August 20–October 3, 2004; The Contemporary Art Museum, St. Louis, September 20, 2003–January 3, 2004. Curated by Shannon Fitzgerald and Tumelo Mosaka.

2003–2005

Black President: The Art and Legacy of Fela Anikulapo Kuti, New Museum of Contemporary Art, New York, July–September 2003. Traveled to: Yerba Buena Center for the Arts, Seattle, April–July 2004; Barbican Art Gallery, London, September 9–October 24, 2004; Contemporary Arts Center, Cincinnati, December 18, 2004–March 6, 2005. (Catalogue)

2003

After Matisse & Picasso, P.S.1 Contemporary Art Center, New York

Art Positions with Kevin Bruk Gallery, Art Basel Miami Beach, FL

Specificity, Riva Gallery, New York

Yellow Pages, Turm Gallery, Helmstedt, Germany

2002

Collection in Context, The Studio Museum of Harlem, New York

The Field's Edge: Africa, Diaspora, Lens, University of South Florida

Irrational Propositions, POST, Los Angeles

Miami Currents, Pérez Art Museum, Miami, Florida, FL

Painting As Paradox, Artist Space, New York

Peculiarly Pink, LUXE, New York

Pictures, Greene/Naftali Inc., New York

2001

Against the Wall: Painting Against the Grid, Surface and Frame, Institute of Contemporary Art, Philadelphia

Chelsea Rising, Contemporary Arts Center, New Orleans

Five Continents & One City, 3rd International Salon of Painting, Museum Mexico City

Here and Now, Zacheta National Gallery, Warsaw

Kjbu, Kunstverein, Cologne, Germany, represented by Florence Lynch Gallery

Material and Matter, The Studio Museum of Harlem, New York

Pleasures of Sight and States of Being: Radical Abstract Painting, Museum of Fine Arts, FSU

2000

Out of America, Galerie Schuster & Scheuermann, Frankfurt & Berlin

Transcending The Norm And Some, New Jersey City University, Lemmerman Gallery

1999

IN-VISIBLE: Abstractions & Narratives; Arsenal Gallery, Bialystok, Poland, September 10–October 17, 1999.

4X4, Alexandre de Folin Gallery, New York

Civil Sex; (*First Stages Collaboration w/ Brian Freeman*), Public Theater, Shiva Gallery, New York

Ideoscape; Boston Center for the Arts, MA

Kunstmarkt, Residenzschloss Dresden, Dresden

Outside Edge: A Survey, Université de Paris 1, Pantheon - La Sorbonne, Paris

Paradise 8 (Permanent Resident / Home and The World); Curatorial Project- Exit Art, New York

Vanishing Pt.; Cynthia Broan Gallery, New York

You Are Here, Matrix Art Project (MAP), New York

Zeitwenden: Ausblick Rückblick, Museum of Modern Art, Bonn, and Museum of Modern Art, Vienna

1998

Crossing Lines; Art-In-General, New York

ART/OMI, International Artist Residency Exhibition; Ghent, NY

1997

Aphrodisia; The Alternative Museum; New York

Diversity in Contemporary Africa: Survey Exhibition of Contemporary African Art, The Ohio State University

Interior Life; Rush Arts, New York

Really; UnFinished Gallery; Williamsburg, Brooklyn, NY

2nd Johannesburg Biennial 1997, South Africa

1996

At the Foreground of Paths; Skoto Gallery, New York

One; Rush Fine Arts; New York

Something I Saw in Brooklyn...; Galerie Elizabeth Valleix, Paris

1995

Stitches; Four Walls; November 12, Brooklyn, NY

Celebrity'Hood; Longwood Arts Project, Bronx Council on the Arts, NY

Either/Or; Flamingo East, New York

Gotcha!; Momena Art, Williamsburg, Brooklyn, NY

Modern Life; Aljira Center for Contemporary Art, in conjunction with Newark Museum, NJ

Other Rooms; Ronald Feldman Fine Arts, New York

Pseudo Museum; Jupiter Interactive Productions, New York

Split-Level; Art-In-General, New York

Unfolding Stories; John Jay College of Art, Music & Philosophy, City University of New York

1994

Fired: A Late Night Comedy Show; No Bias, North Bennington, VT

Fired: A Late Night Comedy Show; Thicket, New York

Go Back and Fetch It (It Means Sankofa); Gallery Annex and Rush Fine Arts, New York

The Third Forum of Visual Art; Museum of Art Brasilia, Brazil

1993

A Grand Tour; Swiss Institute, New York

Trespass-Beyond Borders; Right Bank Gallery, Brooklyn, NY

FIAR International Prize- Art Under 30 (1991–1993), Milan, Rome, Paris, London, Los Angeles, New York; National Academy of Design, NY. New York. (Catalogue)

1992

Without A Notion (A Painting Show); 88 Room, Boston.

AWARDS & GRANTS

2017

Member, National Academy Museum & School, New York

2014

The Janet Sloane Residency, Yaddo, Saratoga Springs, New York

2007

Louis Comfort Tiffany Foundation Grant

2004

The Thami Mnyele Foundation Grant for African Artists.

2001

The Joan Mitchell Foundation Grant for Painting and Sculpture.

2000

Nomination for Best Show of the Year by the International Association of Art Critics in New York.
ArtsLink Collaborative Projects Award in Warsaw, Poland for exhibition, "Here & Now".

1999

Reithalle Artist Residency, St. Gallen, Switzerland

1998

ART/OMI – International Artist Residency, Omi, New York

1994

Penny McCall Foundation Grant

LECTURES & PANEL DISCUSSIONS

2015

"3rd Degree of Separation," *The Nasher Museum*, Durham, North Carolina

2011

"The Role of Art in Diplomacy," *National Gallery of Art*, Washington, D.C.

PUBLIC COLLECTIONS

American Council on Education, Washington, D.C.
Baltimore Museum of Art, Maryland
Birmingham Museum of Art, Alabama
Comcast Technology Center, Philadelphia
Downtown Durham YMCA, North Carolina
George C. Young Federal Building and US Courthouse, Orlando, Florida
Hirshhorn Museum and Sculpture Garden, Washington, D.C.
MTA Arts for Transit, New York
Mississippi Museum of Art, Jackson, Mississippi
Nasher Museum of Art, Durham, North Carolina
Newark Museum, New Jersey
New Orleans Museum of Art, Louisiana
New York Presbyterian Hospital, New York
Pennsylvania Academy of Fine Art, Philadelphia
Pérez Art Museum, Miami, Florida
Philadelphia Mural Arts Program, Pennsylvania
Philadelphia Museum of Art, Pennsylvania
Princeton University, Butler College
Percent for the Arts, PS 340, New York
San Francisco Museum of Modern Art, California
Sheldon Museum of Art, Lincoln, Nebraska
Standard Bank Art Collection, Johannesburg
Studio Museum in Harlem, New York
The Dean Collection LLC, New York
Fox School of Business, Temple University, Philadelphia
Ulrich Museum, Wichita State University, Kansas
United States Mission to the United Nations, United Nations, New York
Center for the Arts, Virginia Tech, Virginia
Ezra Stiles College, Yale University, New Haven, Connecticut

COMMISSIONS AND PUBLIC INSTALLATIONS

Give Me Shelter, 2007 Venice Biennale*
Flow, 2007, Contemporary Arts Center, Cincinnati, OH
Equalizer, 2007, Studio Museum, Harlem, NY*
Third Space, 2008, Institute of Contemporary Art, Philadelphia, PA*
Up and Away, 2009, Princeton University Art Museum, NJ
2009, Yerba Buena Center for the Arts, San Francisco, CA*
2010, The US Mission to The United Nations, New York
2011, Kiasma Museum of Contemporary Art, Helsinki, Finland*
Forever, 2011, New Orleans Museum of Art, LA
Time and Time, 2012, New York Presbyterian/Weill Cornell Medical Center
Heaven's Gate, 2012, Savannah College of Art and Design Museum of Art, GA*
Kaleidoscope, 2012, MTA 20th Avenue D Train, NYC
2013, George C. Young US Courthouse & Federal Building
Possible Worlds, 2014, PS340M, NYC
Bridge, 2014 Virginia Tech, VA*

Our House, 2015, City of Philadelphia Mural Arts Program, PA*
Shadow and Light, 2015, Nasher Museum of Art, Duke University, Durham, NC
Time Bridge, 2015, YMCA, Durham, NC
Rise, 2015, Yale University
The Wisdom of Trees, 2016, Cummins Distribution Headquarters, Indianapolis, IN
Gateway, 2017, Newark Museum*
Constellation, 2018, FRONT International: Cleveland Triennial for Contemporary Art, OH*
Mamba Negra, 2019, ICA Miami, FL*
Force Field, 2019, Sarasota Museum of Art, FL*
Odili Donald Odita: From Periphery to Center, 2020, Laumeier Sculpture Park & Jeske Sculpture Park, MO*

*temporary installations